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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 09/974,777 |
| | Filing Date | October 9, 2001 |
| | First Named Inventor | Prof. Dr. Max Schaldach |
| | Art Unit | 3731 |
| | Examiner Name | Webb, Sarah |
| | Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 19 |
| Attorney Docket Number | 117163-28 | |

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |
| Remarks | | |
| Response to non-final action of 12 February 2003 Fax to 703-872-9302 | | |

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Firm or Individual name | Stephen L. Grant; Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP |
| Signature |  |
| Date | 12 MAY 2003 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

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| Typed or printed name | Stephen L. Grant |
| Signature |  |
| | Date 05/12/2003 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEApplicant: SchaldachExaminer: Webb, S.Ser. No.: 09/974,777Art Group: 3731Title: STENTFiled: 9 October 2001Date: 9 May 2003OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

This letter is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action of 12 February 2003. No fees are believed to be due, as this response is made with three months and there is a net reduction in the number of claims. If any are required, please charge them to Deposit Account 15-0450.

This response is made under the proposed revisions to 37 CFR 1.121, issued on 31 January 2003.

The response has the following parts:

Amendments to the Specification - none made;

Amendments to the Claims – beginning on page 2;

Amendments to the Drawings – none made; and

Remarks – beginning on page 13.